

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0010] on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 1A is a side view of a preferred embodiment of the invention, in which a conventional set of tongs, shown in diagrammatic form, for the introduction of ear marks, exhibits two pins (3 and 4) and two accommodation devices (1 and 2) for accommodating an ear mark hole plate (2a) and a specimen container (1a) with means for bringing together the devices (11).

Please replace paragraph [0011] on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 1B is a view from above of the hole plate (2a) of the ear mark and the sample container (1a) arranged next to it, as they are arranged in the device according to Fig. 1A.

Please replace paragraph [0012] on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 2A is a view from the front of a further preferred embodiment of the invention, in which the accommodation devices (1 and 2) and pins (3 and 4) are arranged in each case next to one another on jaws of a set of tongs.

Please replace paragraph [0013] on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 2B is a view of a hole plate (2a) and of the sample container (1a) from above, as they are arranged in the device according to Fig. 2A.

Please replace paragraph [0014] on page 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 3 A-D show sample container (1a) from different views, with different covers in each case.